

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2003

House Meets At...	Last Vote Predicted At...
9:00 a.m.: Legislative Business Five "One Minutes" Per Side	1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

*** TODAY WE EXPECT IMPORTANT VOTES ON AMENDMENTS TO THE D.C. APPROPRIATIONS BILL. ATTENDANCE IS CRITICAL. PLEASE NOTIFY THE DEMOCRATIC WHIP'S FLOOR STAFF IF YOU WILL BE ABSENT.

FLOOR SCHEDULE

Postponed vote on the Dingell Motion to Instruct Conferees on H.R. 6 - Energy Policy Act of 2003.

Postponed vote on the Cooper (TN) Motion to Instruct Conferees on the Child Tax Credit.

H.R. 2765 - District of Columbia Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2004 (*Frelinghuysen - Appropriations*) (Under Unanimous Consent with one hour of general debate).

Ruppersberger Motion to Instruct Conferees on the Child Tax Credit. The motion instructs conferees to insist on the Senate-passed Child Tax Credit Measure and is identical to the one that passed in the House on June 12th, 205-201. It also instructs Conferees to report out a conference report no later than the second legislative day after adoption of this motion.

BILL SUMMARY AND KEY ISSUES

Postponed vote on the Dingell Motion to Instruct Conferees on H.R. 6 - Energy Policy Act of 2003. This motion instructs conferees to resolve their differences on the provisions in the two bills dealing with electricity reliability standards by September 12, while the conference continues to meet on other issues. These provisions, which are not controversial and are supported by utilities and regulators, would make the current system of voluntary standards mandatory and subject to penalty. While the motion cannot force the provisions to be reported separately, it would allow these important provisions to come to the Floor quickly under separate legislation, and allow the conferees on the energy bill to continue to consider the more controversial matters. **Democrats are urged to VOTE YES.**

Postponed vote on the Cooper Motion to Instruct Conferees on the Child Tax Credit. The motion instructs conferees to insist on the Senate-passed Child Tax Credit Measure and is identical to the one that passed in the House on June 12th, 205-201. It also instructs Conferees to report out a conference report no later than the second legislative day after adoption of this motion. **Democrats are urged to VOTE YES.**

H.R. 2765 - District of Columbia Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2004 (*Rep. Frelinghuysen - Appropriations*) (Under Unanimous Consent with one hour of general debate). This bill provides \$466 million in federal funds for FY04. Funding in this bill include: \$163.8 million for of D.C. Courts; \$163.1 million for D.C. Court Services and Offender Supervision; \$35 million for the Water and Sewer Authority; \$32 million for Defender Services in D.C. Courts; and \$17 million for resident tuition support. In addition, this bill includes \$10 million in federal funds to pay for vouchers for D.C. parents to send their children to private schools.

The unanimous consent agreement provides for germane amendments to be considered under the five-minute rule. Several important amendments are expected including:

- **Davis (VA)/Frelinghuysen/Boehner Amendment.** To authorize a school voucher program in the District of Columbia (the unanimous consent agreement specifically made in order this amendment). **Democrats are urged to VOTE NO.**
- **Norton Amendment.** To strike the provision in the bill that provides the \$10 million for the school voucher program. **Democrats are urged to VOTE YES.**

Democrats are urged to VOTE NO on FINAL PASSAGE if any of the voucher provisions remain in the bill.

Daily Quote...

"Today, a Republican-controlled Congress is preparing to send a Republican president a measure with a central provision - the use of private health plans to deliver Medicare prescription drug benefits - that is tailor-made to the industry's specifications."

-A New York Times story today